



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation;
Proposed Extension of Existing Collection; Comment request

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506 (c) (2) (A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Request for Earnings Information (LS-426). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before [INSERT DATE 60-DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Ms. Yoon Ferguson, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-3201, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone (202) 693-0701, fax (202) 693-1447, Email ferguson.yoon@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Background:

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA). The Act provides benefits to workers injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in an adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing, or building a vessel. In addition, several acts extend the Longshore Act's coverage to certain other employees.

The Secretary of Labor is authorized, under the Act, to make rules and regulations to administer the Act and its extensions. Pursuant to the LHWCA, injured employees shall receive compensation in an amount equal to 66-2/3 per centum of their average weekly wage. Form LS-426, Request for Earnings Information, is used by district offices to collect wage information from injured workers to assure payment of compensation benefits to injured workers at the proper rate. This information is needed for determination of compensation

benefits in accordance with section 10 of the LHWCA. This information collection is currently approved for use through June 30, 2012.

II. Review Focus: The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- * evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- * evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- * enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- * minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions: The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to assure payment of compensation benefits to injured workers at the proper rate.

Agency: Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Type of Review: Extension

Title: Request for Earnings Information.

OMB Number: 1240-0025

Agency Number: LS-426

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Total Respondents: 1,100

Total Annual Responses: 1,100

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 275

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes

Frequency: On occasion

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$528.00

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

DATED: March 14, 2012

Vincent Alvarez
Agency Clearance Officer,
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
US Department of Labor

Billing Code No. 4510-CF-P

[FR Doc. 2012-6602 Filed 03/19/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 03/20/2012]